



WC Docket 14-58
REDACTED FOR PUBLIC INSPECTION

E-File

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CONFIRMATION

Congratulations. Your filing has been successfully certified.

Filing 1 was successfully certified on Fri 28 Jun 19 10:06:46 AM EDT by vicki.mcpherson@troycable.com .

SAC : 250322

498 ID : 143001562

Carrier Name : UNION SPRINGS TEL CO

Program Year : 2020

A confirmation email will be sent to the email address on record for your user ID. Please email USAC at HCCERTS@USAC.ORG if you do not receive this email within 24 hours.

Please take this quick survey and give us your thoughts! Your feedback will help improve the filing process. [Take Survey](#)

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**FCC Form 481 - Carrier Annual Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2018

| | | |
|-----------|---|------------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 250322 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | UNION SPRINGS TEL CO |
| <020> | Program Year | 2020 |
| <030> | Contact Name: Person USAC should contact with questions about this data | Sandra Huner |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number: Number of the person identified in data line <030> | 3347384400 ext. |
| <039> | Contact Email Address: Email of the person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |
| Form Type | | 54.313 and 54.422 |

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OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2018

[illegible]

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| | |
|--|--|
| (400) Number of Complaints per 1,000 customers Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
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|-------|--|------------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 250322 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | UNION SPRINGS TEL CO |
| <020> | Program Year | 2020 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Sandra Huner |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 3347384400 ext. |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |
| <400> | Select from the drop-down list to indicate how you would like to report voice complaints (zero or greater) for voice telephony service in the prior calendar year for each service area in which you are designated an ETC for any facilities you own, operate, lease, or otherwise utilize. | |
| <410> | Complaints per 1000 customers for fixed voice | |
| <420> | Complaints per 1000 customers for mobile voice | |

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| (500) Compliance With Service Quality Standards and Consumer Protection Rules Data Collection Form | | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
| <010> | Study Area Code | 250322 |
| <015> | Study Area Name | UNION SPRINGS TEL CO |
| <020> | Program Year | 2020 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Sandra Huner |
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |
| <515> | Certify compliance with applicable minimum service standards | |

| | | |
|---|--|---|
| (600) Functionality in Emergency Situations Data Collection Form | | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
|---|--|---|

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|-------|---|------------------------|
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| <020> | Program Year | 2020 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Sandra Huner |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 3347384400 ext. |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |
| <600> | Certify compliance regarding ability to function in emergency situations | Yes |
| <610> | Descriptive document for Functionality in Emergency Situations | 250322a1610.pdf |

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OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2018

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| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 3347384400 ext. |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |
| <810> | Reporting Carrier | Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc. |
| <811> | Holding Company | Troy Cablevision, Inc. |
| <812> | Operating Company | Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc. |

[illegible]

| | |
|---|---|
| (900) Tribal Lands Reporting Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
|---|---|

| | |
|---|------------------------|
| <010> Study Area Code | 250322 |
| <015> Study Area Name | UNION SPRINGS TEL CO |
| <020> Program Year | 2020 |
| <030> Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Sandra Huner |
| <035> Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 3347384400 ext. |
| <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

<900> Does the filing entity offer tribal land services? (Y/N) No

<910> Tribal Land(s) on which ETC Serves

<920> Tribal Government Engagement Obligation

Name of Attached Document

If your company serves Tribal lands, please select (Yes, No, NA) for each these boxes to confirm the status described on the attached PDF, on line 920, demonstrates coordination with the Tribal government pursuant to § 54.313(a)(5) includes:

- <921> Needs assessment and deployment planning with a focus on Tribal community anchor institutions.
- <922> Feasibility and sustainability planning;
- <923> Marketing services in a culturally sensitive manner;
- <924> Compliance with Rights of way processes
- <925> Compliance with Land Use permitting requirements
- <926> Compliance with Facilities Siting rules
- <927> Compliance with Environmental Review processes
- <928> Compliance with Cultural Preservation review processes
- <929> Compliance with Tribal Business and Licensing requirements.

| Select Yes or No or Not Applicable |
|--|
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**(1000) Voice and Broadband Service Rate Comparability
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

July 2018

| | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

<1000> Voice services rate comparability certification Yes

<1010> Attach detailed description for voice services rate comparability compliance

Name of Attached Document

<1020> Broadband comparability certification Yes - Pricing is no more than the most recent applicable benchmark announced by the Wireline Competition Bureau

<1030> Attach detailed description for broadband comparability compliance

Name of Attached Document

**(1100) No Terrestrial Backhaul Reporting
Data Collection Form**

FCC Form 481
OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
July 2018

| | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|
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| <020> | Program Year | 2020 |
| <030> | Contact Name - Person USAC should contact regarding this data | Sandra Huner |
| <035> | Contact Telephone Number - Number of person identified in data line <030> | 3347384400 ext. |
| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

<1100> Certify whether terrestrial backhaul options exist (Y/N)

Yes

<1130> Please select the appropriate response (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to confirm the reporting carrier offers broadband service of at least 1 Mbps downstream and 256 kbps upstream within the supported area pursuant to § 54.313(g).

<1140> Alaska Plan rate-of-return certification (yes, no, or not applicable) of compliance with approved performance plan.

| | |
|--|--|
| (1200) Terms and Condition for Lifeline Customers Lifeline Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
|--|--|

| | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|
| <010> | Study Area Code | 250322 |
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

<1210> Terms & Conditions of Voice Telephony Lifeline Plans

Name of Attached Document

<1220> Link to Public Website

HTTP

"Please check these boxes below to confirm that the attached document(s), on line 1210, or the website listed, on line 1220, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.422(a)(2) annual reporting for ETCs receiving low-income support, carriers must annually report:

- | | |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| <1221> Information describing the terms and conditions of any voice telephony service plans offered to Lifeline subscribers, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1222> Details on the number of minutes provided as part of the plan, | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |
| <1223> Additional charges for toll calls, and rates for each such plan. | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> |

| | |
|---|--|
| (2005) Price Cap Carrier Additional Documentation Data Collection Form <i>Including Rate-of-Return Carriers affiliated with Price Cap Local Exchange Carriers</i> | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
|---|--|

| | | |
|-------|---|------------------------|
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| <020> | Program Year | 2020 |
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

Select the appropriate responses below (Yes, No, Not Applicable) to note compliance as a recipient of frozen High Cost support, High Cost support to offset access charge reductions, and Connect America Phase II support as set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(c),(d),(e). The information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

<2015> 2016 and future Frozen Support Certification 47 CFR § 54.313(c)(4)

Price Cap Carrier Connect America ICC Support {47 CFR § 54.313(d)}

<2016> Certification support used to build broadband

Connect America Phase II Reporting {47 CFR § 54.313(e)}

<2017A> Connect America Fund Phase II recipient?

<2017C> Total amount of Phase II support, if any, the price cap carrier used for capital expenditures in 2018.

<2018> Attach the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the carrier newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(A)

Name of Attached Document Listing
Required Information

<2019> Recipient certifies that it bid on category one telecommunications and Internet access services in response to all FCC Form 470 postings seeking broadband service that meets the connectivity targets for the schools and libraries universal service support program for eligible schools and libraries located within any area in a census block where the carrier is receiving Phase II model-based support, and that such bids were at rates reasonably comparable to rates charged to eligible schools and libraries in urban areas for comparable offerings - 54.313(e)(1)(ii)(C)

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(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation
Data Collection Form

FCC Form 481

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819
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| | | |
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| <010> | Study Area Code | 250322 |
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

(3007) Does this filing retain a Cost Consultant and/or Firm, or other Third Party to prepare financial and operations data disclosures submitted to the National Exchange Carrier Association (NECA), USAC, or the Administrator? Yes

| (3007a) | (3007b) |
|--------------------|-------------------------------------|
| Name of Consultant | Name of Consultant Firm/Third Party |
| Gary Smith | JSI |
| | |
| | |
| | |

CAF BLS Reporting

| | | | |
|----------|---|----------|-----|
| (3008A) | Please indicate whether new locations were deployed during the prior calendar year. | (Yes/No) | Yes |
| (3008B) | Please enter the number of new locations deployed in the prior calendar year associated with each of the following speed tiers. | | |
| (3008B1) | Number of newly built locations with access to broadband speeds of at least 10/1 Mbps but less than 25/3 Mbps. | | 0 |
| (3008B2) | Number of newly built locations with access to broadband speeds of 25/3 Mbps or higher. | | 208 |
| (3008C) | Please provide the percentage of deployment across the entire study area. | | |

| | |
|--|--|
| (3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
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| | | |
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Select from the drop down menu or check the boxes below to note compliance with 54.313(f)(1). Privately held carriers must ensure compliance with the financial reporting requirements set forth in 47 CFR 54.313(f)(2). I further certify that the information reported on this form and in the documents attached below is accurate.

Progress Report on 5 Year Plan
Carrier certifies to 54.313(f)(1)(iii)

Yes - Attach Certification

(3010A) Certification of Public Interest Obligations {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(i)}

(3010B) Please Provide Attachment

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

250322a13010.pdf

(3012A) Community Anchor Institutions {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(1)(ii)}

(3012B) Please Provide Attachment

No - No New Community Anchors

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

(3013) Is your company a Privately Held ROR Carrier {47 CFR § 54.313(f)(2)}

(3014) If yes, does your company file the RUS annual report

(Yes/No)

☒

☐

☐

☒

Please check these boxes to confirm that the attached PDF, on line 3017, contains the required information pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2) compliance requires:

(3015) Electronic copy of their annual RUS reports (Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers)

(3016) Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3017) If the response is yes on line 3014, attach your company's RUS annual report and all required documentation

(3018) If the response is no on line 3014, is your company audited?

(Yes/No)

☒

☐

If the response is yes on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3019) Either a copy of their audited financial statement; or (2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers

(3020) Document(s) for Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3021) Management letter and/or audit opinion issued by the independent certified public accountant that performed the company's financial audit.

If the response is no on line 3018, please check the boxes below to confirm your submission on line 3026 pursuant to § 54.313(f)(2), contains:

(3022) Copy of their financial statement which has been subject to review by an independent certified public accountant; or 2) a financial report in a format comparable to RUS Operating Report for Telecommunications Borrowers

(3023) Underlying information subjected to a review by an independent certified public accountant

(3024) Underlying information subjected to an officer certification.

(3025) Document(s) with Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Statement of Cash Flows

(3026) Attach the worksheet listing required information

Name of Attached Document Listing Required Information

250322a13026.pdf

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(3005) Rate Of Return Carrier Additional Documentation (Continued)

FCC Form 481

Data Collection Form

OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819

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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

Financial Data Summary

(3027) Revenue

(3028) Operating Expenses

(3029) Net Income

(3030) Telephone Plant In Service(TPIS)

(3031) Total Assets

(3032) Total Debt

(3033) Total Equity

(3034) Dividends

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| | |
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| (4005) Rural Broadband Experiment Additional Documentation Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 |
| | OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 |
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

4005 Rural Broadband Experiment

Authorized Rural Broadband Experiment (RBE) recipients must address the certification for public interest obligations and provide a list of newly served community anchor institutions.

Public Interest Obligations – FCC 14-98 (paragraphs 26-29, 78)

Please address Line 4001 regarding compliance with the Commission’s public interest obligations. All RBE participants must provide a response to Line 4001.

4001. Recipient certifies that it is offering broadband meeting the requisite public interest obligations consistent with the category for which they were selected, including broadband speed, latency, usage capacity, and rates that are reasonably comparable to rates for comparable offerings in urban areas.

Community Anchor Institutions – FCC 14-98 (paragraph 79)

4003a. RBE participants must provide the number, names, and addresses of community anchor institutions to which they newly deployed broadband service in the preceding calendar year. On this line, please respond (yes – attach new community anchors, no – no new anchors) to indicate whether this list will be provided.

If yes to 4003A, please provide a response for 4003B.

4003b. Provide the number, names and addresses of community anchor institutions to which the recipient newly began providing access to broadband service in the preceding calendar year.

| Name of Attached Document | Listing Required Information |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|
|---------------------------|------------------------------|

| | | |
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

(5010) Do you participate in the Alaska plan? (Yes/No)

| | | |
|--------|---|----------|
| (5012) | <p>If the filing carrier identified in its approved performance plans that it relies exclusively on satellite backhaul for a certain portion of the population in its service area, indicate whether any terrestrial backhaul or other satellite backhaul became commercially available in the previous calendar year in areas that were previously served exclusively by satellite backhaul.</p> | (Yes/No) |
|--------|---|----------|

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|---|---|
| Certification - Reporting Carrier Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
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| <039> | Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF THE REPORTING CARRIER IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTING ON ITS OWN BEHALF:

| | |
|---|--------------------------------|
| Certification of Officer as to the Accuracy of the Data Reported for the Annual Reporting for CAF or LI Recipients | |
| I certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual reporting requirements for universal service support recipients; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported on this form and in any attachments is accurate. | |
| Name of Reporting Carrier: | |
| Signature of Authorized Officer: | Date |
| Printed name of Authorized Officer: | |
| Title or position of Authorized Officer: | |
| Telephone number of Authorized Officer: | |
| Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: | Filing Due Date for this form: |
| Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. | |

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| Certification - Agent / Carrier Data Collection Form | FCC Form 481 OMB Control No. 3060-0986/OMB Control No. 3060-0819 July 2018 |
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|---|------------------------|
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| <039> Contact Email Address - Email Address of person identified in data line <030> | swhuner@ustconline.net |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE REPORTING CARRIER, IF AN AGENT IS FILING ANNUAL REPORTS ON THE CARRIER'S BEHALF:

| Certification of Officer to Authorize an Agent to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier | |
|---|--|
| I certify that (Name of Agent) <u>JSI</u> is authorized to submit the information reported on behalf of the reporting carrier. I also certify that I am an officer of the reporting carrier; my responsibilities include ensuring the accuracy of the annual data reporting requirements provided to the authorized agent; and, to the best of my knowledge, the reports and data provided to the authorized agent is accurate. | |
| Name of Authorized Agent: <u>JSI</u> | |
| Name of Reporting Carrier: <u>UNION SPRINGS TEL CO</u> | |
| Signature of Authorized Officer: | Date: |
| Printed name of Authorized Officer: | |
| Title or position of Authorized Officer: | |
| Telephone number of Authorized Officer: | |
| Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: <u>250322</u> | Filing Due Date for this form: <u>07/01/2019</u> |
| Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. | |

TO BE COMPLETED BY THE AUTHORIZED AGENT:

| Certification of Agent Authorized to File Annual Reports for CAF or LI Recipients on Behalf of Reporting Carrier | |
|--|--|
| I, as agent for the reporting carrier, certify that I am authorized to submit the annual reports for universal service support recipients on behalf of the reporting carrier; I have provided the data reported herein based on data provided by the reporting carrier; and, to the best of my knowledge, the information reported herein is accurate. | |
| Name of Reporting Carrier: <u>UNION SPRINGS TEL CO</u> | |
| Name of Authorized Agent Firm: <u>JSI</u> | |
| Signature of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: | Date: <u>06/25/2019</u> |
| Name of Authorized Agent Employee: <u>Lisa A. McLaughlin</u> | |
| Title or position of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: <u>Consultant - Regulatory</u> | |
| Telephone number of Authorized Agent or Employee of Agent: <u>5123380473 ext.</u> | |
| Study Area Code of Reporting Carrier: <u>250322</u> | Filing Due Date for this form: <u>07/01/2019</u> |
| Persons willfully making false statements on this form can be punished by fine or forfeiture under the Communications Act of 1934, 47 U.S.C. §§ 502, 503(b), or fine or imprisonment under Title 18 of the United States Code, 18 U.S.C. § 1001. | |

Attachments

Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc.

Study Area Code: 250322

**Response to Line 610 - Ability to Function in Emergency Situations for Voice and
Broadband**

Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc. (“Company”) hereby certifies that it is able to function in emergency situations as set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 47, Part 54, Subpart C, §54.202(a)(2)¹ and the applicable Alabama Public Service Commission Rules and Regulations, Telephone Rules. The Company’s network is designed to remain functional in emergency situations without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations as required by Section 54.202(a)(2). The Company can change call routing translations as needed to reroute traffic around damaged facilities. Changing call routing translations also allows the Company to manage traffic spikes throughout its network, as emergency situations require.

Specifically, each central office building is supplied with standby generators and battery back-up that enable the central office to keep running until power is restored so long as fuel is available, or until system changes are made to reroute traffic. The Company’s central office(s) that have twenty-four (24) hour maintenance coverage or have an automatic start engine alternator can provide a minimum of three (3) hours of battery reserve in accordance with the Alabama Public Service Commission Rules and Regulations, Telephone Rules, Rule T-21(L)(2). All other central office(s), as and if applicable, have a minimum of eight (8) hours of battery reserve in accordance

¹ Section 54.202(a)(2) requires ETCs that are designated by the Commission to “demonstrate its ability to remain functional in emergency situations, including a demonstration that it has a reasonable amount of back-up power to ensure functionality without an external power source, is able to reroute traffic around damaged facilities, and is capable of managing traffic spikes resulting from emergency situations.”

with Rule T-21(L)(2). The Company's standby generators and battery back-up equipment support both voice and broadband network equipment in the event of an emergency situation.

The Company is equipped with a natural gas generator that will power all voice and broadband equipment as well as being equipped with recently-replaced battery back-ups to maintain power during a transition from commercial to back-up power and for a minimum of eight (8) hours should the fuel supply be interrupted. All remote equipment locations have batteries to maintain them for a minimum of eight (8) hours. Portable generators are also available for extended periods of commercial power interruptions.

The Company's standby generators and battery back-up support both voice and broadband network equipment should an emergency situation occur.

Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc.

Study Area Code: 250322

Rates, Terms and Conditions for Lifeline Service

(Response to Form 481, Line 1210)

Local exchange service rates and charges are for basic local exchange service, including Tone Dialing Service, and facilities only. The rates for other ancillary services not specifically shown below are presented in Union Springs Telephone Company's tariff(s) on file with the Alabama Public Service Commission. Unless otherwise specified, the rates and charges are for a period of one month, payable in advance and provide unlimited flat rate calling within the local exchange calling scope.

The residential local service rates do not include all mandatory taxes, fees and surcharges, including, but not limited to, state and local taxes, 9-1-1 fees and municipal franchise fees. Qualified Lifeline customers are eligible for Lifeline credits or discounts as outlined in the attached Lifeline tariff.

GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Union Springs Telephone Company

Section 2
5th Revised Sheet 9

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Lifeline Assistance is a government assistance program developed to reduce rates for primary residential telephone service and broadband Internet access service to qualifying subscribers who receive income-based benefits. The Company participates in this program to increase the availability of telecommunications services to all consumers in its serving areas. (N)

A. General

Lifeline Assistance reduces an eligible customer's monthly rates for basic voice telephone service or broadband Internet access service. An eligible customer receives a federally subsidized credit toward the monthly cost of voice telephone service or broadband Internet access service. (C, N)

1. Where available, the broadband Internet access service provides a minimum broadband speed of 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream and a minimum usage allowance of 150 Gigabytes per month. Dial-up service does not qualify as a broadband Internet access service for purposes of Lifeline Assistance. (C, N)

B. Regulations

To constitute a qualifying low-income customer eligible to receive Lifeline services, a customer must meet the requirements set forth in either paragraph 1. or 2. below: (N)

1. A customer's household income must be at or below 135% of the Federal Poverty Guidelines for a household of that size;
 - (a) For purposes of these rules, "income" means gross income as defined under Section 61 of the Internal Revenue Code, 26 U.S.C. § 61, for all members of the household. This means all income actually received by all members of the household from whatever source derived, unless specifically excluded by the Internal Revenue Code, Part III of Title 26, 26 U.S.C. § 101, *et seq.* (C, N)
 - (b) A "household" is any individual or group of individuals who are living together at the same address as one economic unit. A household may include related and unrelated persons. An "economic unit" consists of all adult individuals contributing to and sharing in the income and expenses of a household. An adult is any person eighteen (18) years or older. If an adult has no or minimal income, and lives with someone who provides financial support to him/her, both people shall be considered part of the same household. Children under the age of eighteen (18) living with their parents or guardians are considered to be part of the same household as their parents or guardians. (C, N)

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Union Springs Telephone Company

Section 2
First Revised Sheet 9A

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

B. Regulations (Cont'd)

2. Lifeline Assistance is also available to all qualifying residential customers who participate in one of the following low-income assistance programs. A subscriber will also be considered to be eligible even if he does not personally participate in any of the following programs, so long as an individual who lives in his household participates in at least one of these programs:
 - a) Medicaid
 - b) Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
 - c) Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - d) Federal Public Housing Assistance
 - e) Veterans and Survivors Pension Benefit
3. In addition to meeting the qualifications provided in paragraph 1. or 2. of this section, in order to constitute a qualifying low-income customer, a customer must not already be receiving a Lifeline service, and there must not be anyone else in the subscriber's household subscribed to a Lifeline service.
4. Qualifying subscribers must provide the Company with acceptable documentation as proof of their eligibility to receive Lifeline service under the income-based or program-based requirements; the documentation must be securely retained by the Company. If the Company has a reasonable basis to believe that the subscriber no longer meets the qualifying criteria for Lifeline service, the Company must notify the subscriber of impending termination of the subscriber's Lifeline service in writing separate from the subscriber's monthly bill. If the subscriber fails to provide proof of eligibility within thirty (30) days following the Company's written request to the subscriber to recertify eligibility, the credit will be discontinued on the bill and the subscriber will be de-enrolled from the Lifeline program within five (5) business days after the expiration of the subscriber's time to respond to the request.
5. If the Company receives notification from the program administrator that the subscriber is receiving Lifeline service from another eligible telecommunications carrier or that more than one member of a subscriber's household is receiving Lifeline service, the subscriber will be de-enrolled from Lifeline Assistance without notice within five (5) business days following the Company's receipt of the program administrator's notification.

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Union Springs Telephone Company

Section 2
6th Revised Sheet 10

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Continued)

B. Regulations (Continued)

6. The Company will confirm a subscriber's continued eligibility to receive Lifeline service on an annual basis by requiring the subscriber to sign a certification as to his/her present qualifications for Lifeline service. The Company must notify the subscriber in writing separate from the subscriber's monthly bill that failure to respond to the recertification request will trigger de-enrollment. If the subscriber fails to provide proof of eligibility within sixty (60) days following the company's written request to the subscriber to recertify eligibility, the credit will be discontinued on the bill and the subscriber will be de-enrolled from the Lifeline program within five (5) business days after the expiration of the subscriber's time to respond to the recertification efforts.
7. A subscriber who requests de-enrollment must be de-enrolled by the Company within two (2) business days after the request.
8. The Company will not provide Lifeline benefits to subscribers who:
 - a. have used the Lifeline benefit to enroll in a qualifying Lifeline-supported broadband Internet access service offering with another Lifeline provider within the previous twelve (12) months; or
 - b. have used the Lifeline benefit to enroll in a qualifying Lifeline-supported voice telephone service offering with another Lifeline provider within the previous sixty (60) days.
9. A subscriber may receive Lifeline benefits prior to completion of the twelve (12)-month period or the sixty (60)-month period only if:
 - a. the subscriber moves his residential address;
 - b. the subscriber's current provider ceases operations or otherwise fails to provide service;
 - c. the provider has imposed late fees for non-payment greater than or equal to the monthly end user charge for the supported service; or
 - d. the subscriber's current provider is found to be in violation of the FCC's rules during the twelve (12)-month period, and the subscriber is impacted by the violation.

(N)

(N)

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Union Springs Telephone Company

Section 2
1st Revised Sheet 10A

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Continued)

B. Regulations (Continued)

9. (Continued)

If the subscriber transfers his Lifeline benefit pursuant to this paragraph, the subscriber's Lifeline benefit will apply to the newly selected service until the end of the original twelve (12)-month period, and the subscriber will not be required to recertify until the end of the original twelve (12)-month period. The subscriber's original provider must provide the subscriber's eligibility records to either the subscriber's new provider or the subscriber to comply with the twelve (12)-month service period.

(N)

(N)

10. The Company will process all applications and apply the appropriate credit on the customer's monthly bill. A secondary service charge is not applicable for existing customers who subscribe to Lifeline assistance.

(T,M)

11. As a participant in Lifeline Assistance, customers are eligible to receive Toll Limitation Service at no charge for any Lifeline voice telephone service that charges a fee for toll calls, either domestic or international, that is in addition to the monthly price of the customer's Lifeline service. This service will only be provided at the customer's request and is limited to plans that distinguish between local and long-distance calling.

(T)

(T)

12. Local service deposit requirements will be waived for customers who voluntarily receive Toll Limitation Service.

(T)

13. Participants in Lifeline Assistance shall not be disconnected from Local Service for non-payment of toll charges. In addition, the Company will not deny re-establishment of local service to customers who are eligible for Lifeline Assistance and have previously been disconnected for non-payment of toll charges. Lifeline Assistance will not be connected if an outstanding balance is owed by the customer for local service.

(T)

14. Partial payments that are received from Lifeline voice telephone customers will first be applied to local service charges and then to any outstanding toll charges.

(T)

(M)

(D)

(D)

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Union Springs Telephone Company

Section 2
6th Revised Sheet 11

S2. BASIC LOCAL EXCHANGE SERVICE

S2.13 LIFELINE ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (Continued)

B. Regulations (Continued)

15. Lifeline subscribers may apply their Lifeline discount to voice telephone service, broadband Internet access service, or a bundle of broadband Internet access service and voice telephone service; and plans that include optional calling features, such as, but not limited to, caller ID, call waiting, voicemail, and three-way calling. The Lifeline discount may also be applied to family shared data plans. The calling plan must be in the name of the eligible subscriber, and a household may receive only one Lifeline supported service. Partial payments from Lifeline subscribers purchasing bundled packages or packages containing optional calling features will first be applied to pay down the allocated price of the Lifeline supported services. (T,C,N)
16. The PICC will not be billed to Lifeline customers who subscribe to toll blocking and do not pre-subscribe to a long distance carrier. (T,M)
(M)

C. Credits

The following monthly credit will apply for each customer eligible for Lifeline Assistance:

| | Monthly Credit |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| a) Federal Credit | \$ 9.25 |

The maximum Lifeline Assistance credit available to Alabama customers is \$9.25 per month. The credit amount will not exceed the basic charge for local service, which includes the Subscriber Line Charge, access line and local usage.

S2.14 CLASSROOM COMMUNICATION SERVICE

A. General

1. Classroom Communication Service provides local access service for in-classroom voice and data communications. It is intended only as a communications link between classrooms for the purpose of enhancing the education process by allowing one or more teachers to conduct classes at multiple locations and to access various information databases
2. Customers may subscribe to Classroom Communication Service rates for access lines used exclusively for the following purposes:

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Union Springs Telephone Company

Section 3
2nd Revised Sheet 6

S3. CONCURRENCE STATEMENTS

S3.14 INTRASTATE ACCESS

Union Springs Telephone Company adopts the Exchange Carriers' Association Interstate Access charge tariff for intrastate use. This tariff was filed with the FCC by NECA on behalf of NECA's member companies (this Company is a member Company of NECA). This tariff includes all rules, regulations, rates and charges under which interstate access service will be offered. Exceptions to this adoption of this tariff are stated in Section 200.

S3.15 DUAL PARTY RELAY SERVICE

Union Springs Telephone Company concurs with the Dual Party Relay Service rates, rules and regulations filed with the Alabama Public Service Commission by Bell South Telephone Company, together with any amendments or successive issues thereof, and makes itself a party to such rates, rules and regulations.

Dual Party Relay Service permits hearing and speech impaired users of Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf (TDD) to communicate with users of ordinary telephones. Communications take place by relaying conversations (voice to TDD and TDD to voice). These calls are between one party who must communicate by means of a TDD and another who communicates by means of an ordinary telephone. Messages are rated from the rate center of the calling party to the rate center of the called party. Subscribers may access the Alabama Telephone Relay Service by dialing 7-1-1 or a designated toll-free 800 number.

(D)
|
(D)

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GENERAL SUBSCRIBER SERVICES TARIFF

Union Springs Telephone Company

Section 26
1st Revised Sheet 7

S26. DEFINITIONS

KEY LINE TELEPHONE SERVICE - A service that enables a circuit connecting a key system with a central office.

LEASE LINE - A channel tying together two or more points in the exchange area for the sole use of the subscriber. It is terminated at each point on the subscriber owned equipment and is not connected to the central office switching equipment.

(D)
|
(D)

LOCAL ACCESS AND TRANSPORT AREA (LATA) - Geographic area established for the purpose of defining the territory within which a Bell Operating Company may offer its telecommunications services.

LOCAL CHANNEL - That portion of a channel which connects a station to an interexchanging channel or a channel connecting two or more stations within an exchange area.

LOCAL MESSAGE - A completed communication between customer's stations located within the same exchange area or local service area.

LOCAL SERVICE AREA - The area within which telephone service is furnished customers under a specific schedule of exchange rates and without toll charges. A local service area may include one or more exchange areas.

MAINTENANCE OF SERVICE CHARGE - The charge for each visit by the Telephone Company to the premises of the customer, or authorized user, where the report results from the use of equipment provided by the customer, or authorized user.

MESSAGE - A completed telephone call regardless of length of call or time and distance involved.

MESSAGE RATE - Local exchange service billed on a per-message basis.

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Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc. (SAC 250322)

Response to Line 3010 – Milestone Certification (47 CFR §54.313(f)(1)(i))

CAF-BLS with Greater Than 80% 10/1

Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc. is a recipient of Connect America Fund-Broadband Loop Support (CAF-BLS) support and hereby certifies that throughout 2018, it took reasonable steps to provide upon reasonable request broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream, with latency suitable for real-time applications, including Voice over Internet Protocol, and usage capacity that is reasonably comparable to comparable offerings in urban areas and that requests for such service are met within a reasonable amount of time. If a request for broadband service at actual speeds of at least 10 Mbps downstream/1 Mbps upstream is unreasonable, the Company offers broadband service at the highest available speed.

Union Springs Telephone Company, Inc.

Study Area Code: 250322

Response to Form 481, Line 3026 (audited financials)

Note: The following attachment contains confidential financial information that is protected from disclosure by the Protective Order adopted and released by the Federal Communications Commission on November 16, 2012 in the matter of the Connect America Fund, et al., WC Docket No. 10-90 et al.